

Historical Documents Regarding Waste Disposal in San Diego
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Document Type	Source	Addressed to:	Date	Waste Type	Amount	Units	Comments
Letter	Convair	San Diego DPW	2/18/1957	Convair was requested to provide data pertaining to the existing volume of waste solution.			
				Contaminated process solutions	20,000	gallons	Disposed of by Convair in 1956 to ??
				Other liquid wastes	121,000	gallons	
				Cyanide wastes	-		Encased in concrete and dumped at sea under State supervision
				Magnesium wastes	5,000	pounds	"In the past magnesium wastes have been buried. Five thousand pounds were disposed of in this manner in 1956."
				Breakdown of process solutions:			
				Alkali (caustic)	17,100	gallons	"Solid wastes include magnesium tunings and cake cyanides. In 1956 Convair disposed of 20,000 gallons of contaminated process solutions and 121,000 gallons of other liquid wastes. Cyanide wastes are encased in concrete and dumped at sea under State supervision. In the past magnesium wastes have been buried. Five thousand pounds were disposed of in this manner. The present method of disposal of all other solutions is hauling and dumping into the sanitary fill in the Mission Bay area. Solutions bulking over 500 gallon and which can be hauled in a steel tank are hauled by a contractor....Although most of the acid and alkaline solutions are hauled untreated, one tank full was neutralized before hauling. This treatment took six hours and 800 pounds of caustic for 2500 gallons of solution....It is estimated that the amount of the foregoing wastes will be 200,000 gallons per year for the next five years. Of this 149,000 gallons will be paint and oily wastes, and 51,000 gallons of the process solutions."
				(Class I Acid)	14,500	gallons	
				Chromic (Class I Acid)	5800	gallons	
				Hydrofluoric (Class I Acid)	3480	gallons	
				Nitric (Class I Acid)	3335	gallons	
				Sulphuric (Class I Acid)	1015	gallons	
				Hydrochloric (Class I Acid)	870	gallons	
				Chromic (Class II Acid)	16,900	gallons	
				Sodium Dischromate (Class III Acid)	2,500	gallons	
Letter	Rohr Aircraft Corporation	San Diego DPW	2/20/1957	"Our present annual industrial waste disposal is comprised of:"			
				Hydrochloric - sulfuric	2000	gallons	3 month frequency
				20% Nitric - 4% Hydrofluoric	2000	gallons	2.5 week frequency
				Chromic- Nitric	2000	gallons	2 month frequency
				Caustic	2000	gallons	6 month frequency
				5% Cyanide solution 10% Cyanide salts	1000	gallons	6 month frequency
				"It is believed that over a period of the next five years, this present rate will be doubled. Our present method of waste disposal consists of engaging the services of a commercial pumping company who in turn disposed of these wastes in the Los Angeles area."			
Progress Report	Unclear		4/15/1957	Industrial wastes			Report discusses the need for and the materials and volumes that would "go into an industrial waste dump should one be established" in the San Diego area. Anticipates that on an annual basis approximately 400,000 gallons of waste consisting of acid, toxic process solutions, and paint and oily wastes, per year can be expected from "Convair, Ryan, and Rohr aircraft companies" in the near future; <5,000 gallons of "planting companies" waste; 500 cubic yards (300 to 400 tons) of filter powder (diatomaceous earth) saturated with combustible cleaning solvents (from dry cleaners). The "most suitable dump locations would be" Fort Rosecrans, Border Field, Black Mountain, or Del Mar Mesa. Mission Bay was given a rating of extremely doubtful.
Letter	Superintendent, Sewerage Division, via Acting Director of Public Works	City Manager	2/24/1958				Letter regarding establishment of an industrial waste dump site discusses "two tentatively acceptable" industrial waste sites in Kearny Mesa with a proposed plan of operation and an estimate of quantities of waste materials to be received (including paint and oil wastes, chronic acid, hydrofluoric acid, nitric acid, sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, dichromate, and cyanide).
Disposal Report	Rohr Aircraft Corporation	-	11/6/1958	Nitrate acid, Hydrofluoric acid	2400?	gallons?	Waste was delivered to Mission Bay Sanitary Landfill
Letter	Leon R. Burton, Superintendent of Sanitation Division	Director of Public Works	7/17/1958				Report of additional fill areas in Mission Bay. Letter discusses that "it was indicated that the Mission Fill operation could only last from 6 months to one year due to dredging plans." Provides estimates of volumes of industrial waste acids and proposed disposal at Areas A, B, C, and D indicated on unattached map - unclear if any of these areas are MBLF.
Letter	Omar Rendering Company	County of San Diego, Board of Supervisors	1/12/1959				Discusses type of vehicle that was permitted to use highways for the purpose of transporting industrial waste, particularly waste acids. States that Omar has a fleet of trucks that can properly dispose of waste and that manufacturers no longer need to use the sewer to dispose of acids.

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Letter	Public Health Engineer County of San Diego	Director of Public Health County of San Diego	2/13/1959				States that studies for establishing industrial waste dumps were prepared over previous 18 months to 2 years, but in the meantime, "the city has been using the Mission Bay Sanitary Fill for disposal of industrial wastes which were of excessive strength and which could not be disposed of...into the city sewers." Further states that the city plans to establish a new sanitary fill operation in San Clemente Canyon, and that control over transportation of wastes over public highways should be established.
Letter	Dr. James Christie	Commandant Eleventh Naval District	8/3/1959				Complaint regarding "objectionable practices being conducted at the Mission Bay location. I have seen loads of dead animals being ground up by a tractor and powerful acids being disposed of..."
Letter	San Diego Regional Water Pollution Control Board	State Dept of Water Resources	8/27/1959				Acknowledges receipt of Report on Industrial Waste Disposal Site, Omar Rendering Company, Otay Valley. "The City of San Diego is anxious to terminate the Mission Bay sanitary fill operation within a matter of days, an action which will deprive the metropolitan area of its only presently operative Class I site. We would therefore appreciate receiving your further recommendations in the minimum time..."
Notes	Former Landfill Employee- Mission Bay Site (unsigned)		undated				Series of statements regarding observations of waste practices at Mission Bay.
Resolution 59-R15	San Diego Regional Water Pollution Control Board		unclear				Establishes the Omar Rendering Facility as a disposal site "...because of the imminent closing of the Mission Bay Sanitary Fill..." Summarizes anticipated amount of waste discharges at the Omar Rendering Company in the Otay Valley area. Anticipated amounts may be indicative of what went into MBLF. Wastes listed include chromic acid, mineral acid solutions, alkaline solution wastes, and carbide lime wastes.